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JUN 13 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

June 13, 1997

William F. Caton, Acting Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

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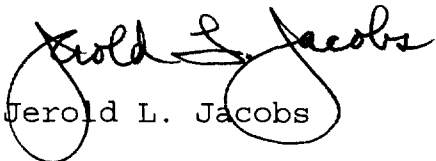
Re: MM Docket No. 87-268
Advance Television Systems

Dear Mr. Caton:

On behalf of our client, Island Broadcasting Co., transmitted herewith for filing are an original and eleven (11) copies of its "Petition for Reconsideration of Island Broadcasting Co.," which seeks reconsideration of a key LPTV issue that was raised but not resolved by the Commission in the Sixth Report and Order, FCC 97-115, in the above-referenced Docket.

Please direct any communications or inquiries concerning this matter to the undersigned.

Very truly yours,


Jerold L. Jacobs

Enc.

cc: Keith A. Larson, Assistant Chief
Saul Shapiro
Bruce A. Franca, Deputy Chief
R. Alan Stillwell
Robert Eckert (All FCC - By Hand) (All w/enc.)

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Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

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JUN 13 1997

Federal Communications Commission
Office of Secretary

In the Matter of)

Advanced Television Systems)
and Their Impact Upon the)
Existing Television Broadcast)
Service)

MM Docket No. 87-268

TO: The Commission

**PETITION FOR RECONSIDERATION
OF ISLAND BROADCASTING CO.**

ISLAND BROADCASTING CO. ("Island"), licensee of Low Power Television ("LPTV") Stations WXNY-LP, Long Island City, New York, WNYX-LP, Plainview, Hicksville, and Mineola, New York, and WNXV-LP, Brownsville, New York, by its attorneys, pursuant to §1.429 of the Commission's Rules, hereby petitions for reconsideration of a key LPTV issue that was raised but not resolved by the Commission in the Sixth Report and Order, FCC 97-115, released April 21, 1997. In support whereof, the following is shown:

A. Introduction

1. Island and its Technical Director, Richard D. Bogner, have previously filed comments in this Docket on several occasions, focusing on allotment and assignment policy and methodology questions, especially as they relate to how the Commission can maximize the number of LPTV stations that will not be displaced or be forced to cease operations entirely as a result of the DTV Table of Allotments. Since 1985, Island has been providing a diverse array of live creative LPTV programming to ethnic and minority viewing audiences in the New York City metropolitan area and Long Island via what are now three LPTV stations. In addition, Mr. Bogner is well-known as a master designer and former manufacturer of broadcast antennas (the "Bogner" in Bogner Broadcast Equipment Corp.). He also has participated in Commission rule-

making and broadcast application proceedings and in broadcast trade association advisory groups for many years.

B. The Commission Should Allow On-Channel Conversion to DTV With a 7 dB to 10 dB Reduction in ERP if There is No Interference with an Operating Full-Power DTV Station

2. The Sixth Report and Order discusses in some detail the possible conversion of analog LPTV stations to DTV (e.g., at ¶127), but offers no general solution -- only procedural and technical aids that may be beneficial to individual displaced LPTV stations. Island recommends herein a specific general method to preserve operating LPTV stations on the day after they are no longer permitted to broadcast in NTSC in 2006 (as proposed in ¶99 of the Fifth Report and Order, FCC 97-116, released April 21, 1997), or whatever precise date is ultimately ordered. Presumably that "D" day will come!

3. Based on both the NTSC to DTV D/U ratios and the DTV to DTV D/U ratios stated in the Sixth Report and Order, and the relative ERP values between NTSC and DTV for comparable coverage stated in the same Report and Order, a simple solution is apparent. If on "D" day an LPTV station has not received a construction permit for an approved alternate DTV channel, then in such case it appears quite safe to allow the LPTV station to convert to DTV on-channel, with a 7 dB to 10 dB reduction in ERP. A check of D/U ratios for co-channel and adjacent channels will show that if an operating NTSC LPTV station is not in fact interfering with an operating full-power DTV station, said LPTV station should not in fact interfere when converted to DTV on-channel at 7 dB to 10 dB lower ERP.

4. Island therefore proposes that the Commission should reconsider its failure to reach a general conclusion on the DTV conversion question in the Sixth Report and Order (or the Fifth Report and Order) and should adopt a rule that permits an NTSC LPTV station to

convert on-channel to DTV at 7 dB to 10 dB lower ERP on the day it faces extinction as an NTSC station because NTSC broadcasting is no longer permitted. Without such action, many operating LPTV stations will not be able to find sources of capital, or even programmers, for their facilities as they approach 2006. Island has already found this to be true!

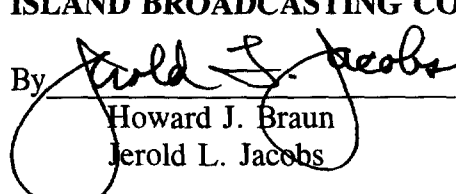
C. Conclusion

5. Island urges that it will cost the Commission and full-power TV stations nothing to implement the general DTV conversion measure described above to protect LPTV stations. However, Island submits that the result will undoubtedly be the saving of many licensed LPTV stations, which otherwise would be permanently displaced by the DTV Table of Allotments and forced to cease operations. Such a development would be devastating to the LPTV Service and to its audiences, is contrary to the paramount public interest, and, most importantly, is totally unnecessary.

Respectfully submitted,

ISLAND BROADCASTING CO.

By


Howard J. Braun
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Dated: June 13, 1997